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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) Handling system for an injection molding machine (100) wherein an application, for example a label, is inserted in the mold cavity (105) of an injection molding tool (104) before injection molding, when for example a beaker having the label (1) on the outer circumference is fabricated by injection molding,

wherein a preforming apparatus means (8) for the label (1) is provided outside the injection molding tool, has a feeder means (3, 4) for the label and a preform (5) into which the label is introduced by the feeder means, and is thus preformed to the shape in which it is to be inserted in the injection mold (105), and

a transfer apparatus means (302) removes the preformed label from the preform (5) and delivers it to the injection mold (105),

wherein the preform (5) is decouplable from the feeder means (3, 4) and moveable into a position different from it.

2. (Currently Amended) Handling system according to claim 1, wherein a transfer carriage (203) is provided with at least one transfer arm (202) on which the preform (5) is mounted, and the transfer carriage (203) is moveable into a delivery station (300) in which a core (303) of a stack gripper (302) engages into the preform (5) for transferring the preformed label, whereupon the stack gripper (302) is moveable into the opened injection molding tool to transfer the preformed label to the injection mold (105).

3. (Currently Amended) Handling system according to claim 2, wherein on the stack gripper (302) a core (303) is provided which engages in the preform (5) and takes up the preformed label.

4. (Currently Amended) Handling system according to claim 3, wherein by means of removal grippers (306) mounted on the stack gripper (302) finished injection-molded parts can be removed from the injection molding tool.

5. (Currently Amended) Handling system according to claim[[s]] 2 to 4, wherein an injection molding tool is provided with two separating planes, the transfer carriage (203) has at

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least two transfer arms (202) moveable relative to one another, and the stack gripper (302) in turn has at least two inserter arms (301) moveable relative to one another.

6. (Currently Amended) Handling system according to claim 1 ~~the preceding claims~~, wherein the preform (5) is mounted decouplably and couplably on the transfer arm (202) or a corresponding element of a transfer apparatus means.

7. (Currently Amended) Handling system according to claim 1 ~~the preceding claims~~, wherein the core (303) is mounted decouplably and couplably on the stack gripper (302) or another element (400) of the handling system.

8. (Currently Amended) Method for inserting an application, ~~for example a label (1),~~ in the injection mold (105) of an injection molding machine ~~(100) for example for fabricating a beaker provided with a label,~~

wherein the application label (1) is preformed in a preforming apparatus means (8) into the form in which it is to be inserted in the injection mold (105),

whereupon ~~at~~ the preform (5) with the preformed application label is decoupled from the preforming apparatus means (8) and transferred to a delivery station (300), in which the preformed label is removed from the preform (5) and subsequently transferred to the injection molding tool, whereupon the preformed label is inserted in the injection mold (105).

9. (Currently Amended) Preforming apparatus means for an application to be applied to an injection-molded article, ~~for example a label (1),~~ wherein a supporting means (700; 800) is insertable into a preform (5) and supports the application label (1) on the inner circumference of the preform (5) until a holding mechanism means provided on the preform, ~~for example a suction means,~~ takes over the holding of the label in the preform (5).